

# EXHIBIT P

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

In re: U LOCK INC. a/k/a	)	
U-LOCK INC.	)	Bank. 22-20823-GLT
	)	
Debtor.	)	Chapter 7
	)	
-----	)	
CHRISTINE BIROS,	)	
	)	
Movant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
SHANNI SNYDER,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
-----	)	

FILED  
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U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT  
PITTSBURGH

**OPPOSITION TO THE EMERGENCY MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN  
ORDER (I) DISMISSING THE CASE AND FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST  
THE PETITIONING CREDITOR, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE (II)  
MAKING A DETERMINATION THAT THE AUTOMATIC STAY IS  
INAPPLICABLE TO THE STATE COURT ACTION PURSUANT TO 11  
USC 362(b)(10), OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE (III) GRANTING RELIEF  
FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY TO THE MOVANT IN RELATION TO  
THE MOVANT'S PROPERTY AND THE STATE COURT CASE, OR IN  
THE ALTERNATIVE, ABANDONING THE MOVANT'S PROPERTY**

Petitioning Creditor Shanni Snyder ("Snyder") files this, her

Opposition to the Emergency Motion:

**BACKGROUND**

In 2015, Unsecured Creditor Christine Biros ("Biros") provided U  
Lock an unsecured loan to purchase a property that consists of  
valuable highway frontage and presently houses a self-storage

business.

The contract contained neither a security agreement nor security interest. Neither a lien nor a *bona fide* mortgage was established. The contract simply states, “This loan agreement between U Lock Inc. (borrower) a Pennsylvania corporation and Christine Biros (lender) and/or Guarantor collateralized from S+T bank for the sum of \$325,316.00 the terms + conditions of the payment will be agreed upon on or before 8/16/15. Lender will set terms if agreement is not settled by that date. /s/ Kash Snyder, Director, U Lock Inc. 7/16/15.” See Exhibit F.

Nearly two years later, on May 5, 2017, Biros sent an unsigned demand letter to U Lock stating that she added accrued interest at nine percent (9%), required a security interest in the property with all officers of U Lock personally liable, all of the lender’s “legal fees” and any other charges the “lender may incur.” See Exhibit G.

U Lock apparently neither signed the letter nor agreed to its terms.

In October 2017, Biros filed suit, but instead of seeking to collect her money, she asked the Court to award her deeds to the property because she averred that U Lock’s deeds were *void ab initio* because of a filing mistake in U Lock’s Articles of Incorporation.

In 2018, the seller of the property rendered new deeds to U Lock. At the same time, in exchange for payment of \$10,000 and deeds in

the name of Christine Biros that stated the original deeds were *void ab initio* (which were to be placed in the safe of the Westmoreland County court until final disposition), Biros allowed the seller of the property to be removed from the case.

After trial, the Court of Common Pleas issued a decision that non-payment to Biros would constitute an unjust enrichment. Therefore, because the court found U Lock to be insolvent, it created a *constructive trust* for Biros. However, the court never considered or allowed the claims of other creditors. As to the deeds, the court ruled the 2015 deeds were *void*. However, it ruled that the 2018 deeds were valid and did transfer the property to U Lock. Pursuant to the constructive trust, the ownership of the property would ultimately be provided to Biros. U Lock appealed.

The Superior Court of Pennsylvania heard an appeal and rendered an opinion. In that opinion, the Court affirmed the creation of a constructive trust for Biros to prevent an unjust enrichment, but also made it clear that the 2018 deeds transferred ownership of the property to U Lock. *Biros v. U Lock*, 255 A3d 489, 494 (Pa. Super. 2021)(“Furthermore, the trial court accepted the legitimacy of the 2018 Deeds: ‘Even accounting for the *void ab initio* status of the [2015 Deeds], the corrective [2018 Deeds], show legal title in the [Property] belonging to U Lock, Inc.’”).

U Lock petitioned the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for leave to



appeal. Because of the petition, the Superior Court did not remand the record to the Court of Common Pleas. (This is similar to a federal appellate court withholding the mandate).

In the interim, Petitioning Creditor received a federal judgment against U Lock based on a wage lawsuit. Petitioning Creditor properly lodged the judgment during 2021 with the Court of Common Pleas. Pursuant to 28 USC 3201, a “judgment in a civil action shall create a lien on all real property of a judgment debtor on filing a certified copy of the abstract of the judgment in the manner in which a notice of tax lien would be filed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6323(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. A lien created under this paragraph is for the amount necessary to satisfy the judgment, including costs and interest.” Petitioning Creditor’s judgment lien “shall have priority over any other lien or encumbrance which is perfected later in time.” 28 USC 3201(b). See Exhibit A.

On January 16, 2022, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania denied U Lock’s petition seeking leave to appeal. However, pending reconsideration petitions or other motions, it also did not remand the record to the Court of Common Pleas.

Notwithstanding that Pennsylvania Rule of Appellate Procedure 1701(a) provides that the lower court cannot proceed further, counsel for Biros’ staff had an *ex parte* discussion with the judge’s law clerk and asked that the property be transferred to Biros. Counsel for

Biros, without notifying anyone, obtained an Order from the Court of Common Pleas allowing the deeds from the seller to Biros to be filed.

On January 25, 2022, Biros filed the deeds with the Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds. The deeds, however, incorrectly claim that the 2018 deeds to U Lock were declared void. The deeds that Biros filed were not signed or approved by the Court. Biros never asked the Court to invoke its constructive trust and have U Lock, as trustee, transfer its interests to her, as should have been done. Therefore, both deeds are on file with no cancellation notations with the Recorder of Deeds.

As U Lock did not know that Biros filed the backdated deeds from the seller, it asked the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to withhold remanding the record so it could appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States. Biros, without mentioning that she obtained deeds “unilaterally,” moreless consented but asked that the property taxes be paid. On March 16, 2022, the Supreme Court granted U Lock’s motion to withhold remand of the record. It is clear from this Order that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania assumed the *status quo* was in place.<sup>1</sup> See Exhibit E.

In the interim, U Lock never received notice of the Orders because, as the judge explained at its hearing on April 22, 2022, the state court acted “unilaterally.” See Biros’ Amended Exhibit I, Entry

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<sup>1</sup> Biros specifically asked for provisions about the property taxes, which U Lock did not oppose; however, Biros never advised the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania that it already received the Order

18 (denying *ex parte* or *sua sponte* Order, but calling the Order *unilateral* after a call from Biros' paralegal to the judge's law clerk occurred).

Also apparently on April 22, 2022, the judge in the state case entertained a motion for possession, which does not appear to be a usual procedure. This motion is not on the public docket. No notice to creditors or to the tenants of U Lock occurred. No action in ejectment was filed.

No creditors were invited to the April 22, 2022, hearing. At that hearing, the court recognized that Petitioning Creditor had a judgment lien and counsel for Biros explained that they acted the way they did to avoid it. Notwithstanding that Petitioning Creditor was not present at the hearing, and could not object, the judge complained that she sued him, sued "the law" and could face prosecution by the Attorney General of Pennsylvania. *Id.* The judge directed U Lock representatives to "pass it on" to the Petitioning Creditor and repeat the message. *Id.*

On April 25, 2022, to assure the ability to claw back the property for the benefit of all creditors, not just Unsecured Creditor Biros, and because U Lock is clearly insolvent, Petitioning Creditor filed the instant petition for involuntary bankruptcy by placing it in the Court's mailbox. However, upon filing, the petition was not accepted, but was placed throughout the Clerk's office for *pro se* review and not

ultimately filed until April 27, 2022.

Petitioning Creditor notified the secretary of the state court judge of this case by personally handing her the Notice of Bankruptcy on May 12, 2022. Petitioning Creditor also notified counsel for Biros.

Apparently, in response to the Notice of Bankruptcy, the judge rendered a summary order that not only provided possession of U Lock's property to Biros, but also allowed her to levy on and sell all of U Lock's property to pay expenses and for cleanup, including unknown environmental costs. See Exhibit B. This preferential Order harmed Petitioning Creditor because she maintains a judgment lien and the judge knew it when he allowed Biros to sell all of U Lock's assets.

On May 20, 2022, despite knowing that a bankruptcy stay existed, counsel for Biros appeared before the state court judge and had a hearing. At that hearing, counsel suggested ways to avoid the stay. The judge falsely stated he rendered his possession on April 22, 2022, so he did not violate the stay– but the Order was not signed until May 13, 2022, and not docketed until May 17, 2022. Counsel for Biros never asked the court to stop the hearing, but instead made arguments and complaints about the Petitioning Creditor. At that hearing the court also stated that it would attempt to strike Petitioning Creditor's appeal from the preferential order allowing Biros to levy and sell the property because she had no standing. See Exhibit C.

On the same day, Biros filed the omnibus motion to this Court asking for myriad types of relief. Despite the complicated nature of the property, and despite U Lock possessing it since 2015, it became an “emergency” so that the creditors could not receive notice, U Lock would be unable to act, and the Petitioning Creditor who is acting without an attorney would be blindsided.

Petitioning Creditor objects and opposes the motion for the reasons set forth below.

**OBJECTION TO MOTION BEING CLASSIFIED AS AN EMERGENCY**

Despite claiming that Alleged Debtor U Lock possessed the property for five years, Biros suggests that this proceeding must be heard as an emergency petition with little notice to Petitioning Creditor and no notice to the other creditors. Petitioning Creditor objects on due process and procedural grounds.

Petitioning Creditor maintains a properly filed judgment lien on all of the debtor’s property, so she has standing. See Exhibit A. It is unclear whether the debtor owns the real property at 14140 U.S. Route 30 or whether the Unsecured Creditor Biros maintains *quit claim* type ownership effective January 25, 2022– after Petitioning Creditor’s judgment. While it is true that the state judge, who most likely had no jurisdiction because the case record was never remanded

to him by the appellate court,<sup>2</sup> in late January 2022 entered what he called a “unilateral” Order allowing Biros to file certain deeds. However, this transfer – even though involuntary as to U Lock – constitutes a preferential transfer to an insider<sup>3</sup> of the debtor and a voidable transfer under Pennsylvania law. Petitioning Creditor suggests that this Court, after clawing back the preferential and voidable transfer, should ultimately sell the property and pay both Unsecured Creditor Christine Biros, Petitioning Creditor, and all other creditors rather than allow for an unjust enrichment in favor of unsecured creditor Biros to occur.

Regardless of which party owns the property, Petitioning Creditor maintains a judgment against U Lock’s assets. Despite knowing of both Petitioning Creditors’ judgment lien and the bankruptcy stay, the same judge granted Biros the right to levy and sell all of the Debtor’s property to pay for expenses. See Exhibit B. The pre-bankruptcy hearing occurred outside of and without notice to Petitioning Creditor.

This complicated situation requires this Court to analyze a complicated factual background. As the United States Court of

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<sup>2</sup> The judge had no jurisdiction and appears to have been mistaken when he claimed he did. Compare Exhibit G, Pennsylvania Rule of Appellate Procedure 1701, and the judge stating he could act “unilaterally” because he knew about the decisions even though the record was not remanded to him.

<sup>3</sup> Petitioning Creditor is filing an action to declare Biros an insider due to her heavy involvement in the purchase of U Lock’s assets, her original planning and development of the company, her control over the entity, and the fact that the entity is acting as her trustee. Petitioning Creditor’s adversary proceeding will also seek a claw back and declaratory judgment that the judgment is superior to Biros’ unsecured claim.

Appeals for the Third Circuit explained in *In re Mansaray-Ruffin*, 530 F.3d 230, 234-37 (3rd Cir. 2008), “Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 7001 sets forth matters that may only be resolved through an ‘adversary proceeding,’ including the determination of the ‘validity, priority, or extent of a lien or other interest in property.’ Fed. R. Bankr.P. 7001(2). An adversary proceeding is essentially a self-contained trial—still within the original bankruptcy case—in which a panoply of additional procedures apply. See Fed. R. Bankr.P. 7001–7087.

For this Court to determine ownership, disregard the potential that the transfer may be voidable as a preference, and adjudicate all that Movant Biros demands, is not an emergency proceeding—its an adversary proceeding. In *In re Smith*, 514 B.R. 331, 338-39 (Bankr. S.D. Ga. 2014), the court held “that the procedural safeguards inherent in that rule should not be disregarded based on narrow definitions of ‘validity’ adopted by many courts. The Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment forbids the deprivation of a property right without due process of law, and the adoption of a Rule of Procedure by the judiciary constitutes the template for assessing due process. . . . [A]ny challenge to the viability of a lien must be considered within the confines of an adversary proceeding under the Rules and as a matter of due process. . . . [P]art of the purpose of Rule 7001 must certainly be to ensure that when the issue is the

As to the environmental issues, these are the same issues that Biros complained about in 2018. Nothing changed that requires this Court to resolve the issue on such an accelerated schedule and without full and fair notice to all creditors, tenants, and interested parties, preferably after U Lock appears.

## **I. THE BANKRUPTCY SHOULD NOT BE DISMISSED**

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Biros presents a transcript of a case where counsel for the Movant Biros improperly goaded a judge into making dicta-type comments towards Petitioning Creditor knowing that she was not a party and had no ability to respond. See Docket Entry 18, Biros' Amended Exhibit I.

The Judge's dicta and rhetoric, complaining of a lawsuit Petitioning Creditor filed where the judge is a defendant, has no legal weight and no creation of a dispute. Petitioning Creditor's claim against U Lock is based upon a federal judgment duly entered after both Petitioning Creditor and the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania provided U Lock with notice to attend an in-person hearing. 28 USC 3201. Petitioning Creditor's judgment has priority. 28 USC 3201(b).

Petitioning Creditor filed and lodged the judgment with the Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland County. It has been on file, unpaid, since December 2021. *Snyder v. U Lock*, 21 JU 04758 (Westmoreland County C.C.P.); see Exhibit A.

This Court must provide the federal judgment full faith and credit. *In re C. W Mining Co*, 2009 WL 4798264, \*5 (BAP 10th Cir) ("[A] federal district court judgment is entitled to full faith and credit in a bankruptcy court, absent the most extraordinary of circumstances."). The general rule is that an unappealed, unstayed

final judgment is not subject to a “bona fide dispute.” *In re Raymark Indus., Inc.*, 99 B.R. 298, 300 (Bankr.E.D.Pa.1989); *In re Caucus Distributors, Inc.*, 83 B.R. 921, 928–29 (Bankr.E.D.Va.1988); *In re Drexler*, 56 B.R. 960 (Bankr.S.D.N.Y.1986).

Moreover, 28 USC 3201 explains that,” (A) A judgment in a civil action shall create a lien on all real property of a judgment debtor on filing a certified copy of the abstract of the judgment in the manner in which a notice of tax lien would be filed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6323(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. A lien created under this paragraph is for the amount necessary to satisfy the judgment, including costs and interest.(b)Priority of Lien.—lien created under subsection (a) shall have priority over any other lien or encumbrance which is perfected later in time.”

Petitioning Creditor filed her Proof of Claim in this case. This constitutes prima facie evidence of the validity and amount of the claim. Fed. R. Bankr.P. 3001(f); *In re: Zimmer*, 623 B.R. 139 (Bank. W.D.Pa. 2020), citing *Juniper Dev. Group v. Kahn (In re Hemingway Transp., Inc.)*, 993 F.2d 915, 925 (1st Cir.1993). In order to rebut this prima facie evidence, the objecting party must produce “substantial evidence.” *United States v. Clifford (In re Clifford)*, 255 B.R. 258, 262 (D.Mass.2000).

Finally, Biros attempts to collaterally attack a federal judgment by complaining of inadvertent omissions in Petitioning Creditor’s 2018

bankruptcy. However, Biros was a creditor in that proceeding and did not seek to reopen it as she could. Any omission on the 2018 bankruptcy schedule lacked materiality and would not warrant action being taken. *See In re: Daniel*, 613 B.R. 374, 383 (Bank., M.D. Fl. 2020)(holding that a creditor objecting to discharge for omissions or misstatements in schedules must show that they are material).

Petitioning Creditor simply did not know she had a cause of action against U Lock until 2020. U Lock told the state judge that Petitioning Creditor worked for “sisterly love.” At no time did the Petitioning Creditor receive income from U Lock. U Lock did promise Petitioning Creditor in 2020 that she would be paid minimum wage for all the time she spent as they developed or sold the property, and U Lock asked that payment be deferred. Petitioning Creditor provided work and services for U Lock. The argument to the United States District Court, which was accepted, constituted an assertion that, indeed, Petitioning Creditor received no payment, but that she should have received minimum wage as a matter of law. Sisterly love does not apply to corporations.

Clearly, this does not rise to the level of a dispute. It may be a basis to collaterally attack the 2018 bankruptcy decree, but not the debt. Even if the period of 2016 through May 2018 is removed from the judgment, it would still be over \$10,000.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Any omission of the potential claim against U Lock would most likely have been abandoned by the trustee considering the unsecured debt exceeded several million dollars and the minimum wage owed

ii. **No status based prohibition on filing a bankruptcy exists**

Movant Biros asserts that, simply because Petitioning Creditor is the sister of two of U Lock's officers,<sup>5</sup> she constitutes an "insider" that cannot bring an involuntary petition. Biros then misstates the elements laid down in an often criticized case along with an unpublished case that cites the criticized case. Specifically, Biros cites *In re Runaway II*, 168 B.R. 193, 196 (W.D. Mo. 1994), but that Court stated that employees, insiders and creditors **receiving avoidable preferences** cannot file an involuntary bankruptcy. Specifically, the court explained, "Thus, to file a petition under (b)(2), a creditor must hold a claim that is not contingent, subject to a bona fide dispute, nor be the claim of an employee, insider or transferee **of an avoidable transfer**." *Id.* See also *In re Kenval Mktg. Corp.*, 38 B.R. 241, 244 (Bankr. E.D. Pa.) ("[C]reditors....are precluded from successfully filing **if they hold voidable preferences**."), *reconsideration denied*, 40 B.R. 445 (Bankr. E.D. Pa. 1984).

Biros does not and cannot aver that Petitioning Creditor holds an avoidable preference. On the contrary, it is Biros that received an avoidable preference to the detriment of all of the creditors by using a

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constituted a small amount in comparison. Biros is welcome to reopen the bankruptcy and challenge the inadvertent omission.

<sup>5</sup> U Lock is a corporation with nearly 1,000 shareholders. Petitioning Creditor owns no stock. Petitioning Creditor did jobs for U Lock. In 2021, Petitioning Creditor learned that U Lock's failure to pay her constituted wage violations even though she was not receiving a salary, just a promise to eventually receive compensation.

constructive trust to prevent a public sheriff's sale of the property where creditors receive notice, parties can bid, fair value for the property can occur at the auction, and all parties have the opportunity to receive their share.

Regardless, contrary to the minority of cases cited by Biros, most courts interpret §303(b) to allow an insider, or an employee or transferee, with which insiders are associated to file an involuntary petition in cases involving 12 or less creditors. In *Sipple v. Atwood (In re Atwood)*, 124 B.R. 402, 405 n.2 (S.D. Ga. 1991), the court stated, "Petitioning creditors...qualify [to file an involuntary petition] even if their claim is voidable."). In *In re Little Bldgs. Inc.*, 49 B.R. 889, 890-91 (Bankr. N.D. Ohio 1985), the court denied the debtor's motion to dismiss involuntary petition filed by insiders. In *In re United Kitchen Assocs. Inc.*, 33 B.R. 214, 215 (Bankr. W.D. La. 1983), the court held, "Under the plain meaning of 11 U.S.C. §303(b)(1) and (2), employees of the debtor may be petitioning creditors for involuntary bankruptcy of the debtor."

The *Little Bldgs.* court thoroughly reviewed the language of the statute, and concomitantly, explained the basis for its decision. In denying a motion to dismiss an involuntary petition filed by certain officers, directors, employees or shareholders of the debtor, it found that "the language of the section states, with mathematic-like certainty, that the claims of insiders are excluded only from

consideration in determining the number of an alleged debtor's creditors." *Little Bldgs.*, 49 B.R. at 890-91. "Insiders are still eligible to initiate involuntary proceedings against the entity they are or were associated with." *Id.* at 891. Other courts have similarly held that the status of the creditor constitutes a consideration for mathematical purposes, not for eligibility. *See In the Matter of Skye Marketing Corp.* 11 B.R. 891 (E.D. N.Y. 1981).

Indeed, in *In re Kitchen Assocs. Inc.*, 33 B.R. 214, 215 (Bankr.W.D.La.1983), the court held, "Under the plain meaning of 11 U.S.C. § 303(b)(1) and (2), employees of the debtor may be petitioning creditors for involuntary bankruptcy of the debtor." In *In re Hopkins*, 177 B.R. 1 (Bankr.D.Me.1995), the court allowed former spouses and their children to be petitioning creditors.

Collier's also supports the *Little Bldgs.* rationale that "[a]lthough insiders are not counted as holders of claims for purposes of establishing the numerosity requirement in Section 303(b), these individuals can be petitioning creditors if they satisfy the other requirements." *Collier on Bankruptcy* ¶ 303.03[2](c)(iv), at page 303-36 (15th ed. rev.). Collier takes the same position with respect to creditors who have received voidable transfers. *Id.* at ¶ 303.03[2](c)(v), page 303-36-37.

The history of bankruptcy makes it clear that an insider would be an acceptable petitioner. 11 USC §303(b) contains a specific

subpart authorizing the filing of an involuntary petition against a partnership by its general partners, *i.e.*, insiders. See 11 U.S.C. §303(b)(3); 11 U.S.C. §101(31)(C)(i) (defining general partner in debtor as insider where debtor is partnership). If Congress wished to disallow to allow all insiders, including corporate insiders, to file an involuntary petition, Congress could have easily included language to that effect in §303.

As noted in *Little Bldgs.*, the exclusionary language in §303(b)(2) should be interpreted to apply for counting the number of creditors. Historically, courts have held that the language does not disqualify any type of creditor. In *J.J.S. Co. v. Sacks (In re J.J.S. Co.)*, 445 F.2d 138, 139 (7th Cir. 1971), the Seventh Circuit held, "While 11 U.S.C.A. §95(e)...excludes shareholders, officers and directors in the computation of the number of creditors of a bankrupt for the purposes of determining how many creditors must join in the petition, it does not serve to disqualify an officer, director or shareholder as a petitioning creditor."); *see also Winkleman v. Ogami*, 123 F.2d 78, 80 (9th Cir. 1941).

## **2. Petitioning Creditor filed the Involuntary Petition in good faith**

Biros argues that Petitioning Creditor filed the petition in bad faith and that the petition should be dismissed on this basis. She states that this filing was to stop the dispossession by U Lock. On the

contrary, the filing was to create an estate for all creditors, to claw back the voidable transfer, and to have the property sold in order for Biros, Petitioning Creditor, and all creditors to be paid in full from the sale of the assets of U Lock.

Petitioning Credit clearly met the statutory requirements for filing the petition. She maintains an unpaid judgment lien for over \$262,000 and, certainly, Biros would even agree that U Lock is not paying its bills.

Furthermore, the Petitioning Creditor conducted research before filing the case and knew the facts. She saw her 28 USC 3201 judgment lien being usurped and bypassed deliberately by Biros in a proceeding she could not take part in. No

Petitioning Creditor saw the property being transferred to an unsecured creditor without a Sheriff's sale through a constructive trust, which clearly dissipated U Lock's assets, and protected no other creditors or tenants.

Finally, Petitioning Creditor saw dangerous threats by Biros to impound all of the property of U Lock's storage customers and provide thirty-days for those paid-up customers to receive their things, making it more likely that U Lock would be subject to more debt and never pay the judgment. See Biros Amended Exhibit I (discussing locking the storage facility and notifying tenants by mail to retrieve their items).

Certainly the Petitioning Creditor chose to assert her rights, and



it appears quite obvious why. The Order at Exhibit B, entered in retaliation for the bankruptcy stay, and in deliberate defiance of the stay, actually allows Biros to sell everything U Lock owns to pay for removal of garbage, cars, and environmental damage that existed at the time the property was purchased. The property that Biros is allowed to levy and sell is not itemized. The costs for environmental damage have not been set by any court.

More importantly, it cannot be said that the Petitioning Creditor used this proceeding as a tactical advantage in a pending action. On the contrary, the Petitioning Creditor did not participate in the action, received no notice of the case that Biros speaks of, and was not a party to the proceeding. As the judge stated on May 20, 2022, at his unlawful hearing, Petitioning Creditor has no standing in that case. *See* Exhibit C; *but see* Entry 18, Biros' Amended Exhibit I (mentioning that perhaps Petitioning Creditor could take part or intervene).

Biros cites a 2013 case that resulted in no judicial findings and constituted a compromise settlement to show "bad faith." This compromise settlement has no relevance here. Petitioning Creditor and Robert Biros, the father of Christine Biros, consented to a resolution of a dispute without the necessity of a judicial decision. This Court did not find bad faith or render any adjudication. In that case, issues arose because Biros chose to rent his property with no lease. The reason the same parties are now before this Court is

because the Biros family chooses to continue to conduct business without written documentation. Specifically, Christine Biros provided an unsecured loan so U Lock could buy a property without any binding documentation and then resorted to a rarely used form of action to obtain the property without notice to other parties.

**a. There exists no basis for sanctions**

Ordinarily, in an involuntary bankruptcy, the Alleged Debtor may seek sanctions if a bankruptcy is dismissed. Here, a competing creditor, Biros, who seeks to protect her improper voidable preference, is seeking sanctions. As explained above, the debtor clearly lacks solvency. The Petitioning Creditor maintains a judgment enforceable pursuant to 28 USC 3201. She Becaused filed her case with a proper purpose. Sanctions are inappropriate and the demand for \$20,000 constitutes just more intimidation against people who oppose their position. As shown by the hearing transcripts, Biros is seeking sanctions of \$20,000 against U Lock for raising a defense about Biros' arrest. This is Biros' magic number to ask for if one challenges them or litigates a legal position. Petitioning Creditor will not allow Biros' threats of sanctions to persuade abandonment when the 28 USC 3201(b) judgment lien provides Petitioning Creditor's lien superiority to Biros' post-judgment deed. The demand for sanctions are nothing but a strategic plan to try to deter the prosecution of claims.

**III. THE AUTOMATIC STAY IS APPLICABLE AND NO RELIEF FROM THE STAY SHOULD BE PERMITTED, ESPECIALLY NUNC PRO TUNC RELIEF**

**a. Biros deliberately violated the bankruptcy stay**

Biros seeks to annul the automatic stay. “This relief is quite extraordinary because it is retroactive, and, therefore, parties who secure such relief will have their previous actions, which may have violated the automatic stay at the time, validated after the fact. Annulling the stay is thus inconsistent with the notion that all debtors who seek the protection of bankruptcy in good faith are entitled to the ‘breathing spell’ created by the automatic stay. Such extraordinary relief should therefore not be commonly available. If it were otherwise, the careful balance of benefits and burdens built into the Bankruptcy Code by Congress would be thrown off kilter”. *See In re Siciliano*, 167 B.R. 999, 1007 (Bank. E.D. Pa. 1994).

With few exceptions, most courts acknowledged that annulling the stay is only appropriate in the rarest of circumstances. *See, e.g., In re Shamblin*, 890 F.2d 123, 126 (9th Cir.1989) (“Any equitable exception to the automatic stay [such as annulling the stay] should be narrow and applied only in extreme circumstances.”); *Albany Partners, supra*, 749 F.2d at 675 (“[T]he important congressional policy behind the automatic stay demands that courts be especially hesitant to

validate acts committed during the pendency of the stay.”); *Scrima v. John Devries Agency, Inc.*, 103 B.R. 128, 135 (W.D.Mich.1989) (“annulment of an automatic stay is a radical form of relief”); *In re Jewett*, 146 B.R. 250, 252 (Bankr. 9th Cir.1992) (“Any such equitable exception to the automatic stay [i.e., annulling the stay] should be narrow and applied only in limited circumstances.”); *In re Barker-Fowler Electric Co.*, 141 B.R. 929, 936 (Bankr.W.D.Mich.1992) (“Annulment of the stay is an equitable remedy and should be applied only in extreme or extraordinary circumstances.”); *In re Williams*, 124 B.R. 311, 316 (Bankr.C.D.Cal, 1991) (“The power to annul the stay must ... be exercised sparingly.”); and *In re Schewe*, 94 B.R. 938, 951 (Bankr.W.D.Mich.1989) (“Retroactive relief from the automatic stay may be ordered by a bankruptcy court in appropriate limited circumstances.”).

In *In re Boston Business Machines*, 87 B.R. 867, 871 (Bankr.E.D.Pa.1988), the court stated that annulling the stay is only appropriate in “a small category of situations.”

However, in this case, Biros deliberately violated the stay. Prior to the state court’s Order of May 13, 2022, purportedly awarding possession and allowing Biros to sell all of U Lock’s property without judicial oversight, Petitioning Creditor notified both Biros and the Court of Common Pleas judge of the automatic stay in this case. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, which continued to have jurisdiction

over the underlying case, recognized the stay immediately. See Exhibit D (docket sheet recognizing stay). After it received the *void ab initio* Order for possession – obtained without even filing a lawsuit or notifying the tenants – Biros continued prosecuting U Lock in state court. On May 20, 2022, Biros proceeded at a hearing and attempted to convince the state judge that he could proceed as well, even asking the judge to issue an Order that could help in the bankruptcy. See Exhibit C.

Biros knew that her actions violated the bankruptcy stay and acted in bad faith, yet now she asks this Court to equitably annul the stay. This is different from a case where an inadvertent or technical violation of the stay occurred. Just like calling her motion an emergency motion to obtain a snap decision, Biros' actions in the state court are similarly on par. As an example, in *In re: Stancil*, 487 B.R. 331, 341 (Bankr. D.C. 2013), the court explained, “even if [the bankruptcy] filing was in bad faith, the court will not sanction a willful violation of the automatic stay by annulling the stay. Any bad faith on [debtor's] part is outweighed by the mortgagee's knowing violation of the automatic stay.” Therefore, this Court should not entertain an annulment or relief from the automatic stay until all equity, lien, claw back, and other issues as to the property are settled.

**b. U Lock's interest in the property, its business, and subleases.**

As to U Lock's interest in possessing the property, this Court in *In re: Flabeg Solar US Corp.*, 499 B.R. 47570, Collier Bankr.Cas.2d 795 (Bank.W.D.Pa. 2013), explained, " It is undisputed that the Debtor had (and continues to have) *at least* possession of the Property at the time this bankruptcy case commenced. Therefore, under the line of cases holding that mere possession is sufficient to invoke the protection of the automatic stay, the stay applies. Furthermore, this Court holds that a possessory interest, without any accompanying legal or contractual interest, is sufficient to invoke the application of the automatic stay." *Flabeg Solar* based its decision on *In Atlantic Business and Community Corporation*, 901 F.2d 325 (3rd Cir. 1997), the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, citing *In re: 48th Street Steakhouse*, 835 F.2d 427 (2nd Cir. 1987), stated, "We join with the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in holding that a possessory interest in real property is within the ambit of the estate in bankruptcy under Section 541, and thus the protection of the automatic stay of Section 362." *Id* at 328. In *Atlantic Business*, the Third Circuit affirmed the decision of the district court in holding that a tenancy at sufferance created a property interest protected by the automatic stay. *Id*. Although the facts presented in *Atlantic Business* are distinguishable, the Third Circuit cited approvingly to *48th Street*,

and likewise held that “[t]he language of Section 362 makes clear that *mere possession* of property at the time of filing is sufficient to invoke the protections of the automatic stay.” 901 F.2d at 328 (emphasis added).

Furthermore, it appears that U Lock or the trustee may have a right to claw back the deed from January 2022. Pennsylvania’s law relating to voidable preferences allows a four year time to demonstrate that an action preferred a single creditor– even when the transfer constituted an involuntary transfer. Bankruptcy law allows for one year when a creditor– such as Biros – yielded considerable influence, and ninety (90) days regardless of the circumstances. Petitioning Creditor certainly has an interest in the property with her perfected judgment lien on it before the preferential transfer to Biros in January 2022.

Regardless, the deeds filed in January 2022, which were neither signed by a judge nor had their language reviewed, directly conflicts with both the original decision of the Court of Common Pleas and the Superior Court of Pennsylvania which stated that the corrective deeds indeed made U Lock the owner of the property. There are two competing deeds on file with the Westmoreland County Recorder of Deeds. The Recorder did not make notations prioritizing one or the other.

Considering this, the unilateral filing of non-judicial deeds– not

signed by a judge, that claims the original deeds were void directly conflicts with the decisions. As explained above, both the common pleas court and the Superior Court of Pennsylvania found that the 2018 deeds transferred ownership to Biros.

Moreover, U Lock made an argument to the state court that no mandate ever came from the Superior Court because of a stay by the Supreme Court rendering the actions of the state court to be without jurisdiction. See Pa.R.A.P. 1701. It is understood that U Lock took appeals from both the January 2022 Order and the *void* May 13, 2022, Order for possession challenging the jurisdiction of the state court. The petitioning creditor took an appeal as well because of the portions of the Order that allow Biros to sell U Lock's other property and use it to offset her costs. These appeals should be stayed because this Court will need to take the property, determine ownership and lien priority, sell it, and compensate all the creditors.

Finally, U Lock maintains leases to many third-party property storage customers. Counsel for Biros stated at the April 2022 hearing that, "They raised the issue of the tenants, it is a series of lockers and storage sites. We have no problem whatsoever, Your Honor. We will blockade the site then if they will give us lists of their clients we will send out notice letters to them telling them to come and pick up their stuff. If people do not come we will advertise for it. At the end of that we will do what we are entitled to do with unclaimed property." See



Entry 18, Biros' Amended Exhibit I. This procedure will subject U Lock to more liability considering that these customers may have prepaid for their tenancy– yet they were provided no orderly notice from the state court or opportunity to participate.

For this reason, the stay cannot be lifted at this time.

**c. Biros' request for possession and to sell all found U Lock property**

In the state court action, tenants and creditors were not invited to participate. Despite knowing a stay existed, the Common Pleas Court rendered an Order not only allowing possession, but also levying all of U Lock's non-real property and allowing it to be sold by Biros to cover the expenses of removing items. See Exhibit B ("Such writ will authorize levy and sale of any property of Defendant U Lock to satisfy (a) the costs of the levy; (b) any unpaid property taxes; and (c) the costs of removal of rubbish, trash, used cars and any other environmental hazard located on the property)." This goes far beyond any simple possession of property issue, but allows a single, preferred creditor, to take everything U Lock owns and sell it to cover non-itemized and unclear expenses.

However, in Pennsylvania, you must file an action for ejectment, not a quick motion without notice to the public, the tenants, or the other creditors. Ejectment is an action filed by a plaintiff who does not possess the land but has a right to possess it, against a defendant

who has actual possession.” *Siskos v. Britz*, 567 Pa. 689, 790 A.2d 1000, 1006 (2002); *see also Soffer v. Beech*, 487 Pa. 255, 409 A.2d 337 (1979). “ Ejectment is a possessory action only, and can succeed only if the plaintiff is out of possession, and [the plaintiff] has a present right to immediate possession.’ ” *Siskos*, 790 A.2d at 1006 (quoting *Brennan v. Shore Bros.*, 380 Pa. 283, 110 A.2d 401, 402 (1955) ).

It does not appear that Biros sought ejectment in her lawsuit against U Lock. She never averred that her deed was superior. She did not notify the tenants. Instead, Biros filed a motion and the judge granted it when he learned of this bankruptcy despite having cancelled the hearing due to the automatic stay. Certainly, Biros’ request that she can just sell everything U Lock owns to pay for her expenses defies logic and is unheard of– especially where the environmental problems came with the property, not from U Lock.

**d. Possession affects U Lock’s leases and exposes it to liability**

U Lock is a storage facility with active tenants– tenants that prepaid. Providing Biros with possession, when it never served the tenants, will necessarily bring additional claims against debtor, harming the estate. The tenants, who maintain leases, maintain a right to be told they are being moved and their property impounded by Biros. This Court cannot allow this type of “plan” by Biros to move forward. Moreover, the leases it rendered constitute property of the

estate and must be disposed of, abandoned, or otherwise resolved before Biros can violate them and simply evict tenants.

**e. 11 USC 362(b)(10) does not apply.**

Biros recognizes that 11 USC 362(b)(10) does not specifically apply, but attempts to convince this Court to expand it to this situation. Section 362(b)(1) addressed a problem where a lease terminated and enterprises filed bankruptcy simply to prolong the lease. In this case, there exists no lease. Rather, there is a dispute as to ownership and whether a *voidable* transfer occurred. U Lock, if placed in bankruptcy, can claw back the transfer, sell the property, and pay all of the creditors. This is the required result where a multi-million dollar property is being hijacked by a single creditor with a \$350,000 unsecured claim.

If Congress desired to eliminate the automatic stay for properties in situations like the present one, when it enacted 11 USC 362(b)(10), it could have included language. This Court cannot expand the statute where there exists no Congressional intent.

**IV. THERE CAN BE NO ABANDONMENT PROPERTY AT THIS JUNCTURE**

It appears unclear what property Biros demands this Court to abandon. She does not itemize the possessions U Lock maintained in the storage sheds. Nevertheless, she asks this Court to abandon the unknown items so she can sell them pursuant to the *void* state court

order. Biros also appears to desire that this Court abandon the real property without this Court evaluating the value thereof despite the fact that a fair sale of the property could pay all of the creditors, including Biros. This is why Biros fights so hard—because she desires an unjust enrichment and to obtain a multi-million dollar property for a few hundred thousand dollars without regard to the other creditors.

Biros cites no case law to suggest that a creditor can seek to abandon property of an estate before a trustee is even appointed. In *In re: Wideman*, 84 B.R. 9718 Collier Bankr.Cas.2d 650 (Bank. W.D. Tx. 1988), the Court explained that, while a creditor can move to *compel* a trustee to abandon property, it must be done after full notice and a hearing with all creditors receiving notice. In *Wideman*, the Court specifically found that the creditors received inadequate notice, as here.

Regardless, there can be no basis for this Court to abandon all of U Lock's property – including possessions not itemized and a high value property worth more than Biros' unsecured claim.

As to the environmental problems, they have existed prior to the purchase of the property. The property in question can be sold for well more than the debts of the estate. Therefore, there is no basis to abandon the property.

## V. Conclusion

Based on the above, the motion filed by unsecured creditor Christine Biros should be denied.

### **DECLARATION OF SHANNI SNYDER**

The above facts as stated are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. I filed the bankruptcy against U Lock in good faith because I believed that U Lock is not paying its bills as they become due, its assets are being conveyed to a single creditor without notice of participation to the other creditors, and that I hold an undisputed debt in excess of \$10,000 with less than 12 other unsecured, non-insider creditors. I did not include my potential claim against U Lock on my 2018 bankruptcy petition because I did not fully understand that they owed me money for doing work. I was not receiving any compensation from U Lock and I did not receive a salary. I made it clear to the federal judge that they did not pay me anything. I did not begin to research my labor rights until 2020 when U Lock informed me that I would never receive a position with the Company, that its property was being given to Christine Biros, etc. My research of the Fair Labor Standards Act occurred after my bankruptcy and I learned that I could take action for the work I did even if U Lock said I did it for "sisterly love" or contingent upon their profitability. This is why it was not included in my schedules. Even if the time prior to May 2018 was removed from my judgment, it would still exceed \$10,000. I declare under the penalty for perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. 28 USC 1746.

Respectfully submitted,



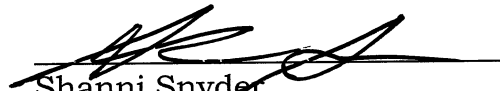
Shanni Snyder  
14390 Route 30  
North Huntingdon PA 15642  
shannis@pm.me  
(412) 218-1750

PETITIONING CREDITOR

### CERTIFICATE OF FILING AND SERVICE

I, Shanni Snyder, certify that all participants to this case have joined the Court's Electronic Case Filing Service and will receive a copy of this document and the attached exhibits through that system and notification when the document is filed.

In addition, I certify that I filed this document on May 31, 2022, by depositing with the Clerk of Court's filing box.

  
Shanni Snyder



Notice

4758 of 2021

Pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 3201, this judgment, upon the filing of this abstract in the manner in which a notice of tax lien would be filed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of 26 U.S.C. § 6323(f), creates a lien on all real property of the defendant(s) and has priority over all other liens or encumbrances which are perfected later in time. The lien created by this section is effective, unless satisfied, for a period of 20 years and may be renewed by filing a notice of renewal. If such notice of renewal is filed before the expiration of the 20 year period to prevent the expiration of the lien and the court approves the renewal, the lien shall relate back to the date the judgment is filed.

Names and Addresses of Parties against whom judgments have been obtained	Names of Parties in whose favor judgments have been ordered
U LOCK INC. also known as U-LOCK INC. 14140 Route 30 North Huntingdon PA 15642	SHANNI SNYDER 14390 Route 30 North Huntingdon, PA 15642
DOB(if available): -- Drivers Licence (if available): ---	Docket No. 2:21-cv-00904
Amount of Judgment	Date Judgment Entered on Docket
\$262,702.00 plus post-judgment interest \$402 costs	October 18, 2021
	Credits: none

FILED  
PROTHONOTARY'S OFFICE  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
2021 DEC 15 AM 10:10  
CHRISTINA O'BRIEN  
PROTHONOTARY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

I CERTIFY, That the foregoing is a correct Abstract of the Judgment entered or registered by this Court.

Dated: 12/14/2021

Joshua C. Lewis, Clerk

By Karen Sawdy

, Deputy Clerk



EXHIBIT A



**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA  
CIVIL ACTION – LAW**

**SHANNI SNYDER**

**Plaintiff**

**Vs.**

**Case No. 21JU04758**

**U LOCK INC a/k/a  
U-LOCK INC**

**Defendant**

**NOTICE OF THE ENTRY OF JUDGMENT on the 15TH day of DECEMEBR,  
2021 in the amount of \$262,702.00 in the above captioned action.**

  
Prothonotary

**THIS IS A NOTICE ONLY!**



IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION

CHRISTINE BIROS, an individual,

CIVIL DIVISION

Plaintiff,

No. 17CJ04886

vs.

ORDER OF COURT

U LOCK, INC., a Pennsylvania  
corporation,

Defendant.

ORDER OF COURT

AND NOW, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022, it is hereby

ORDERED and DECREED that:

1. The Prothonotary of Westmoreland County is directed to issue a Writ of Possession to the Sheriff of Westmoreland County for property situate at 14140 Route 30, North Huntingdon, PA 15642, with a Tax Map No. 54-03-10-0-10 (the "Property") against Defendant U Lock, Inc. and in favor of Plaintiff Christine Biros.

2. Such Writ will authorize levy and sale of any property of Defendant U Lock to satisfy (a) the costs of the levy; (b) any unpaid property taxes; and (c) the costs of removal of rubbish, trash, used cars and any other environmental hazard located on the Property.

3. Defendant U Lock within five (5) days will comply with the Order of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to pay all due and unpaid real estate taxes on the Property.

4. ~~Defendant U Lock within ten (10) days post financial security in an amount of~~

~~to pay for any environmental remediation which is necessary.~~

ATTEST:

GINA O'BARTO  
PROTHONOTARY

BY THE COURT:

EXHIBIT B

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA.  
CIVIL ACTION – LAW**

**CHRISTINE BIROS, an individual,  
Plaintiff(s)**

**Case No. X 4886 OF 2017-**

**WRIT OF POSSESSION**

**Vs.**

**U LOCK, INC., a Pennsylvania corporation,  
Defendant(s)**

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND**

**TO THE SHERIFF OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY:**

**To satisfy the judgment for possession in the above matter you are directed to deliver possession of the following described property to CHRISTINE BIROS, an individual,**

**14140 Route 30, North Huntingdon, PA 15642, with a Tax Map No. 54-03-10-0-10**

**(2) To satisfy the costs against U LOCK, INC., a Pennsylvania corporation you are directed to levy upon any property of U LOCK, INC., a Pennsylvania corporation and sell (his, her, their, its) interest therein.**

**Date: May 13, 2022**

*Lini O'Bento*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Prothonotary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**COPY**

**LAW FIRM OF WILLIAM E. OTTO  
WILLIAM OTTO, ESQUIRE**



IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA.

CIVIL DIVISION

\* \* \*

CHRISTINE BIROS,	)	No. 4886 of 2017
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
U LOCK, INC.,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

\* \* \*

HEARD: Friday, May 20, 2022

BEFORE: The Honorable Harry F. Smail, Jr., Judge

\* \* \*

TRANSCRIPT OF MOTION TO AMEND THE RECORD  
AND MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

\* \* \*

A P P E A R A N C E S:

On behalf of the Plaintiff:

WILLIAM E. OTTO, ESQ.

On behalf of the Defendant:

ALAN ROTH, ESQ.

**EXHIBIT C**

1 FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2022 - 9:49 A.M.

2 P R O C E E D I N G S

3 \* \* \*

4 THE COURT: Call the case of Christine Biros,  
5 plaintiff, versus U Lock, Inc. as defendant. Case  
6 number 4886 of 2017.

7 Will counsel please enter their appearance  
8 for the record.

9 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I'm William Otto  
10 representing Christine Biros.

11 MR. ROTH: Alan Roth on behalf of U Lock.

12 THE COURT: Let's first talk. The Court is  
13 indicating at this particular number, and the Court  
14 notes that all appellate rights at this particular  
15 number, 4886 of 2017, have been exhausted, that the  
16 Court received from a nonparty who has no involvement in  
17 the underlying Common Pleas case, nor the Superior Court  
18 case, nor the allowance for appeal to the PA Supreme  
19 Court case, nor the deferential treatment by the Supreme  
20 Court of Pennsylvania for consideration of the Supreme  
21 Court of the United States any interest at all filing a  
22 notice of appeal at this number.

23 The Court did receive what is noticed as a  
24 notice of appeal, but there's no standing.

25 Mr. Otto, if you'd like to address that.

1 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, my only comment is,  
2 first of all, that under Rule 2329(3), you have the  
3 discretion to deny any request for intervention. The  
4 entry of appearance was filed using a form from family  
5 court. Wasn't even the normal petition for leave to  
6 intervene.

7 So, I see no reason why this shouldn't be  
8 stricken from the docket.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Do you want to make any  
10 comment on this Shanni Snyder notice of appeal?

11 MR. ROTH: No comments.

12 THE COURT: Do you stand opposed to the oral  
13 motion to strike it from the docket?

14 MR. ROTH: I have no position on that.

15 THE COURT: That's fine. That's all I'm  
16 asking. You don't have to take a position. You can  
17 simply say no --

18 MR. ROTH: No position.

19 THE COURT: You're not involved in that.  
20 Let's get back to Mr. Roth. I gave you a pretty  
21 thorough set of instructions relative to the caption.  
22 Did you do anything to correct it?

23 MR. ROTH: Yes, Your Honor. I brought it to  
24 your office three days ago. I think it's waiting for  
25 your signature to do what you asked to have done.



1 THE COURT: Let me see here. I got a notice  
2 for bankruptcy. Then I got your response to the  
3 objections, filed. I have a letter of May 18th from  
4 Mr. Otto. So this is the U Lock motion to correct  
5 and/or strike the erroneous caption, correct?

6 MR. ROTH: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Did you see that, Mr. Otto?

8 MR. OTTO: I did. Given, Your Honor, it  
9 looks like it was filed yesterday in the Prothonotary's  
10 office, it should have been done several weeks ago.

11 THE COURT: Right.

12 MR. ROTH: It was delivered to your office,  
13 Your Honor, about three days ago. However, if I could  
14 suggest to the Court --

15 THE COURT: My understanding is we were here,  
16 I think, end of April.

17 MR. OTTO: 22nd of April, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: 22nd of April. What took a  
19 month?

20 MR. ROTH: Well, what it was, I was diagnosed  
21 with cancer, and that cancer was very far along. That  
22 interrupted everything I was doing. I was doing all  
23 kinds of testing and things. That's why it took that  
24 long to get it done.

25 THE COURT: Mr. Otto, did you get an

1 opportunity to review the Order of Court attached to his  
2 motion and do you have any objection to it?

3 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I just --

4 THE COURT: As far as the wording is all  
5 I'm --

6 MR. OTTO: I saw that you have already  
7 changed it on your order on the 13th. Based on that,  
8 Your Honor, I didn't look at it any further.

9 With all due respect to Mr. Roth's action, I  
10 think your order on the 13th of May takes care of the  
11 issue.

12 THE COURT: I'll grant in part and deny in  
13 part basically and refer to the order back to the May  
14 13th sui sponte order that I issued.

15 MR. ROTH: Yes.

16 THE COURT: That issue is completed then. We  
17 are here today. Mr. Otto, for the record's sake, would  
18 you like to address your May 18th, 2022, correspondence  
19 just so that we establish it on the record?

20 MR. OTTO: Yes. First of all, as Your Honor  
21 is aware, there's been an involuntary Chapter 7  
22 bankruptcy filing against U Lock. And under the federal  
23 bankruptcy code, an automatic stay goes into effect.

24 So, the purpose of this presentation this  
25 morning, Your Honor, I want to make very clear has

1 nothing to do with U Lock specifically. I'm not asking  
2 for you to rule on anything related to U Lock  
3 specifically.

4 But the motion that I submitted to you  
5 previously for sanctions included request for sanctions  
6 against both Mr. Roth as well as George and Cash Snyder.  
7 I would like you to consider those.

8 Just to point out a couple of things related  
9 to our previous hearing, Your Honor. At that hearing,  
10 Mr. George Snyder agreed to provide information related  
11 to old cars that were on the site. He agreed that he  
12 would provide the name of the police officer that he  
13 spoke to, as well as copies of various releases he  
14 claims he had from car owners. That was to be delivered  
15 on the Tuesday following the April 22nd hearing.

16 I have not received anything from either  
17 Mr. Roth -- and I wouldn't expect to receive it directly  
18 from Mr. Snyder, but I didn't receive anything from  
19 Mr. Roth.

20 Second, Mr. Snyder said the taxes would be  
21 paid on the property. They have not been paid. I don't  
22 expect them to get paid now because that is an  
23 obligation of U Lock, and it's certainly stayed by the  
24 bankruptcy petition.

25 But I believe that goes to the fact that

1 there have been no commitments made by the principals of  
2 U Lock which have been kept, and, of course, the last  
3 item is the estate release. It had to be executed, and  
4 that required your action. Otherwise, it wouldn't have  
5 been done until the last couple of days.

6 With that in mind, if you look at the motion  
7 that I filed or the information that I filed to  
8 supplement your request, there is a summary that shows a  
9 number of invoices for -- that came after or -- on or  
10 after November 2019.

11 Mr. Roth made the point that he believes any  
12 actions of his prior to the date of his bankruptcy  
13 petition would have been discharged. Regardless of  
14 whether that's right or not, a substantial amount of  
15 what we have complained about took place after that  
16 date.

17 You may not recall, Your Honor, but in  
18 November we began hearings on his post-trial motions.  
19 And subsequent to that he filed appeals in the Superior  
20 Court and a Petition for Leave to Appeal to the Supreme  
21 Court. And at every step, he again raised the issue of  
22 my client's source of funds.

23 So I believe the motion is still relevant.  
24 Even if you exclude the invoices for matters prior to  
25 November, it still runs around 8 to \$9,000, which

1 whether that amount would be collectible is up in the  
2 air, Your Honor. But at least --

3 THE COURT: Well, your motion suggests or  
4 your supplemental -- I want to call it right. Your  
5 evidence in support that was filed supports \$14,280, but  
6 your request for sanctions is \$20,000.

7 MR. OTTO: Yes.

8 THE COURT: So we have \$5,720 that are not  
9 established. Your request for that is for damages you  
10 felt your client sustained because of the malfeasance or  
11 behaviors on the other side of the case. I have to  
12 consider what actual damages are.

13 And if you follow the precedent law, unless  
14 there's some evidentiary presentation of actual damages  
15 sustained as a result of even misuse of freedom of  
16 speech to the defamatory effect of somebody's  
17 reputation, you would have to represent or present  
18 evidence in support of it, even if it's not the full  
19 request, but enough to establish that I can take actions  
20 on established damages.

21 Do you have that to present today?

22 MR. OTTO: May I speak with my client?

23 THE COURT: Sure.

24 (Indulgence)

25 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, I'm not sure we can

1 quantify anything. With that in mind . . .

2 THE COURT: That was a concern of mine,  
3 obviously for the balance of the demand or request.  
4 Because if there's not quantification, I'm precluded by  
5 precedent law as to what remedies I can make available  
6 within an Order of Court because I don't want to create  
7 an automatic additional appellate issue.

8 MR. OTTO: I understand, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Roth, obviously at this point  
10 in time there's a Chapter 7 bankruptcy that you served  
11 me a notice on relative to U Lock, Inc. Now there's a  
12 question of whether or not the sanctions can be imposed  
13 upon George and Cash Snyder, joint and severally, that  
14 are not necessarily protected by the bankruptcy  
15 pleading.

16 So, do you want to respond to that?

17 MR. ROTH: Well, Your Honor, we believe that  
18 the bankruptcy pleading stays all activity in this case,  
19 because the case does involve U Lock, and we believe the  
20 stay -- and I actually have a copy of the section that  
21 grants the stay right here if you want to see that.

22 THE COURT: If you want to bring that up,  
23 I'd be happy to. I want to touch base on one thing.  
24 You gave me a Rule of Civil Procedure rule.

25 MR. OTTO: 2329(3.

1 THE COURT: That'll save my law clerk time to  
2 look it up.

3 MR. ROTH: I believe that the automatic stay  
4 stays all proceedings in this case because U Lock is an  
5 active participant in the case. Therefore, we don't  
6 believe that anything should be happening today with  
7 regard to these issues.

8 Once the bankruptcy is resolved, then we can  
9 come back and revisit these issues then if we need to do  
10 that. And I believe that's how it should happen.

11 THE COURT: How does your bankruptcy  
12 petition, though, in any way void my prior orders for  
13 the receipt of deeds and possession of the property  
14 since they were prior to the filing of the bankruptcy?

15 MR. ROTH: Well, first of all, we did not  
16 file the bankruptcy. Shanni Snyder filed the  
17 bankruptcy.

18 THE COURT: No. She filed a suggestion for  
19 bankruptcy, and then apparently somebody received --  
20 acknowledged it.

21 MR. ROTH: Well, what happened is --

22 THE COURT: My question is, how does she have  
23 standing other than the liquidated damages to the labor  
24 and wage case that she had in the federal court against  
25 U Lock where she doubled her damages because of the

1 liquidation claim, which I'm aware of to suggest  
2 bankruptcy based on those claims, but how does that  
3 relate back to Shanni Snyder's claims as to the  
4 property, the possession thereof and ownership that  
5 we've already established after the exhaustion of appeal  
6 back to Christine Biros?

7 MR. ROTH: Well, the bankruptcy -- the  
8 bankruptcy is an involuntarily bankruptcy.

9 THE COURT: I understand that. But it's  
10 filed by a nonparty.

11 MR. ROTH: Yes.

12 THE COURT: As to the relationship of this  
13 case number Christine Biros versus U Lock, Inc., Shanni  
14 Snyder's claims are based from a federal lawsuit under  
15 labor and wage which was defaulted, which kicks in then  
16 the automatic doubling of the damages and liquidated  
17 damages which Judge Colville entered.

18 So, she has the suggestion of bankruptcy for  
19 U Lock relative to that claim and what they have. But  
20 if properties have already been deeded, transferred and  
21 then are simply up for possession prior to that  
22 bankruptcy being filed, which is the case here, what's  
23 your position on that?

24 To be quite honest, you're asking us to stay  
25 this automatically for related claims that have nothing



1 to do with Christine Biros, but they do relate to  
2 U Lock, Incorporated.

3 MR. ROTH: Well, because of the automatic  
4 stay, which you have in front of you, that stays all  
5 proceedings against U Lock. It stays all proceedings.

6 THE COURT: Okay. And I'll grant you that.  
7 Let's say it stays it from the date it was filed before  
8 the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, which is April 28th, 2022. I  
9 issued orders before that granting the deeds to  
10 Christine Biros and the properties to her prior to the  
11 bankruptcy. So the automatic stay doesn't protect that.

12 MR. ROTH: I'm not saying that it does. I  
13 understand what you're saying.

14 THE COURT: So she can continue to move for  
15 possession of her properties that she owns by deed,  
16 because that's prior to the bankruptcy. That's not a  
17 protected field under the automatic stay, because the  
18 claim was made after the events that transpired and  
19 after the exhaustion of the appeals through the state  
20 system and your allowance for consideration to enter  
21 into the federal system. And you didn't do it.

22 MR. ROTH: I believe that the stay covers any  
23 of these proceedings today. I believe that that's what  
24 the stay does.

25 THE COURT: But you don't have an Order of

1 Court that tells me it does. You just have the U.S.  
2 Code Title 11 Subsection 362. But that doesn't stay  
3 prior events before the date of the bankruptcy  
4 proceeding. Or the filing thereof.

5 MR. ROTH: It stays all actions against  
6 U Lock.

7 THE COURT: Those actions are done. That's  
8 what I'm trying to say. They are not proceedings that  
9 are going on. She already has the ownership of the  
10 property. So therefore -- and by right, it's her  
11 property. Now she can remove off anybody that she sees  
12 as a squatter on her property by eviction, because  
13 that's -- it's prior to the bankruptcy, unless you have  
14 some case that indicates to me this real property is at  
15 issue.

16 But the real property isn't even at issue in  
17 the bankruptcy because it's not even an asset on April  
18 the 28th, 2022 at 4:53 p.m. when Shanni Snyder filed  
19 this.

20 MR. ROTH: We still believe the stay applies.  
21 If you disagree with that --

22 THE COURT: Well, if I disagree with that and  
23 I enter an order to that effect, obviously you can have  
24 it reviewed by the bankruptcy court judge, who then  
25 could, under the supremacy clause, indicate to the state

1 court that an order issue suspending that possession.

2 But I think you're going to have to establish  
3 with the Western District Bankruptcy Court a precedent  
4 that indicates that or something statutorily that  
5 applies under U.S. Code 11 Subsection 362 that is a  
6 mandate that applies to a state enforcement of prior  
7 conduct which is completed before the bankruptcy begins.

8 That's the dilemma. It's the timing of when  
9 the bankruptcy began. I think you would be correct here  
10 if this thing started prior to my April -- I believe  
11 22nd Order of Court. If it was prior to the April 22nd  
12 Order of Court of 2022, then you would have standing to  
13 say I'm automatically stayed. This came in six days  
14 after that order went into effect.

15 MR. ROTH: I understand.

16 THE COURT: And you don't have an appellate  
17 order by mandamus or king's bench that says I must stay  
18 the allowance of the state action below because all the  
19 appeals are exhausted.

20 MR. ROTH: I understand what you're saying.

21 THE COURT: Correct?

22 MR. ROTH: We still submit we should have the  
23 protection.

24 THE COURT: I understand. Mr. Otto.

25 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, if you would issue

1 such an order, that would help us in the bankruptcy  
2 court.

3 THE COURT: I think that's your third request  
4 essentially is that the bankruptcy doesn't affect the  
5 April 22nd, 2022, Order of Court for the deeds and  
6 possession.

7 MR. OTTO: Right.

8 THE COURT: Okay. I think it does confound  
9 you on the taxes. It does confound you on the vehicles.

10 MR. OTTO: That's the order related to Shanni  
11 Snyder. Or the rule.

12 THE COURT: Anything further that you would  
13 like on the record for today?

14 I'm going to take all this under advisement.  
15 I am going to look into the bankruptcy U.S. Code Title  
16 11 Subsection 362 to see if there's any binding by the  
17 supremacy clause as to events that transpired before the  
18 bankruptcy. Because that's the real issue. And if it  
19 does bind me and I don't have the authority and/or  
20 jurisdiction, then I'll agree with your automatic stay  
21 and I'm done.

22 But if there's not, then I think that the  
23 Court will find that the April 22nd, 2022, Order of  
24 Court can still proceed because the bankruptcy came  
25 afterwards.

1 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, there is a recent  
2 change to the bankruptcy code. I'm not a bankruptcy  
3 attorney, so I don't have the citation. But it relates  
4 to stays or the impact of stays on expired leases.

5 The reason for the change was that when a  
6 tenant's lease expired, a tenant would often file a  
7 bankruptcy petition to delay their eviction process.  
8 So, the change in the bankruptcy code provided that if  
9 the lease has expired, then the automatic stay does not  
10 apply to efforts to regain possession.

11 I don't know the extent to which that applies  
12 in this situation, but it is certainly an analogous case  
13 where the debtor or U Lock has no right to the property.

14 THE COURT: You would assume that the  
15 eviction here would more or less mirror a landlord  
16 tenant like lease?

17 MR. OTTO: Yes. That's my point, Your Honor.

18 MR. ROTH: I can tell the Court that I've  
19 done hundreds of bankruptcies, and I don't believe that  
20 what he's arguing is going to apply to this particular  
21 case.

22 THE COURT: See, I would tend to agree with  
23 you if it was within the time frame subsequent to the  
24 filing of the bankruptcy.

25 MR. ROTH: I understand.

1 THE COURT: Then I think I'm bound  
2 automatically. There's this question of six days before  
3 I enter an order, because the appellate process or the  
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and then one allowance into  
5 the federal statement wasn't utilized.

6 So the question is, does that escape the  
7 automatic stay of the bankruptcy and is permissibly  
8 permitted to proceed in the form of an eviction for  
9 possession?

10 He's saying even after a bankruptcy is filed  
11 under a landlord/tenant type lease expired, the  
12 automatic stay doesn't apply. I'm concerned that it  
13 applies even less to an event that transpired before the  
14 bankruptcy than subsequent to. And that's our dilemma.

15 Would you prefer to have leave to brief this  
16 particular issue from both sides and submit that?

17 MR. OTTO: Your Honor --

18 THE COURT: It wouldn't have to be anything  
19 significant.

20 MR. OTTO: On one hand, I would love the  
21 opportunity to do that. I'm also reluctant to cause my  
22 client to have to spend more money to respond to  
23 arguments which I believe are nonsense.

24 I have no problem, if Your Honor would like,  
25 I can get the citation and any cases and provide them to

1 both you and Mr. Roth.

2 THE COURT: Instead of a brief, legal  
3 memorandum that would be in the form of a letter that  
4 can be exchanged between counsel.

5 MR. ROTH: I can do it that way.

6 THE COURT: Here's my issue: What I would  
7 like to do is I would like to have it in short order. I  
8 don't want this languishing. Could you have it by close  
9 of business next Friday at 5 p.m.?

10 MR. OTTO: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: That would give you all of next  
12 week, five business days to get it together, but seven  
13 days from today.

14 And it doesn't have to be in the form of a  
15 brief or anything, just a legal memorandum by  
16 correspondence of any citations you want me to look at  
17 or review so that Caitlin, my law clerk, and I can look  
18 at those items and consider your argument that the  
19 automatic stay is imposed upon me.

20 I would consider Mr. Otto's position that it  
21 is not imposed upon me and does not subject my  
22 authority. Is that agreeable?

23 MR. ROTH: That's fine.

24 THE COURT: We'll allow you to do that. I'm  
25 going to look at everything in the intervening time, and

1 then I'll defer ruling until after I receive the legal  
2 memorandums. The earlier you get them to me, the  
3 earlier I can issue orders.

4 But in reference to the Shanni Snyder case, I  
5 am going to issue an order relative to that that is  
6 permissible by Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure if  
7 I feel that it's my duty to do so.

8 MR. OTTO: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 MR. ROTH: Could I just add a little bit  
10 about his request for sanctions and the amount?

11 THE COURT: Okay. Yes.

12 MR. ROTH: All right. I point out when  
13 preliminary objections were filed by Mr. Otto, he filed  
14 five or six issues in those preliminary objections. The  
15 Court ruled on one of those.

16 Now they're making a claim and they're trying  
17 to tack costs for all of this research on all of these  
18 issues.

19 THE COURT: My question to you, Mr. Roth, is  
20 why didn't you file a response to his motion that would  
21 calculate down off of his billable time of \$14,280,  
22 which I don't think should even be considered?

23 MR. ROTH: Well --

24 THE COURT: If that's your argument now,  
25 obviously I don't have the time this morning because of



1 subsequent hearings that are coming up to go line by  
2 line down to challenge his billable rate or his time.

3 MR. OTTO: Your Honor, with all due respect,  
4 as I said earlier, and Mr. Roth isn't looking at it  
5 obviously, but my summary, if you exclude the time prior  
6 to November 19th, it takes out the preliminary  
7 objections. From November 19 on was post-trial action.  
8 There's a summary --

9 THE COURT: If you look --

10 MR. OTTO: Next page. A little forward. A  
11 little more.

12 THE COURT: A.

13 MR. OTTO: And the dates are on the left-hand  
14 column, Your Honor. So if you exclude, I think, the  
15 first three lines, then you get to November, my November  
16 invoices.

17 THE COURT: There's a \$1050 there.

18 MR. OTTO: The first couple were prior to the  
19 November time frame.

20 THE COURT: I see.

21 MR. OTTO: So even if you take Mr. Roth's  
22 argument about preliminary objections, that's excluded  
23 from what I've said this morning.

24 THE COURT: I see. So there would be about,  
25 looks like \$3,025. If you take those --

1 MR. OTTO: I believe it's around 8,000, Your  
2 Honor. It's --

3 THE COURT: I'm just looking at the summary.  
4 Oh, I see what you're seeing. The value of hours.

5 MR. OTTO: Right.

6 THE COURT: If you look at that, that's about  
7 \$18,000.

8 MR. OTTO: Well, no. If you look at the  
9 fourth date down, that's 11-2-2019. And then go across  
10 all the way to the far right-hand corner and total those  
11 three numbers. It's around \$10,000.

12 THE COURT: I see. Okay.

13 MR. OTTO: And that excludes, as Mr. Roth was  
14 concerned about, my time for preliminary objections. In  
15 fact, that excludes everything through trial.

16 THE COURT: Okay. I'm trying to follow you,  
17 but your numbers aren't reconciling with my numbers.  
18 Even if I take those four summation numbers to the far  
19 right --

20 MR. OTTO: If you look on the far left  
21 column, you see there's one billing for 11-7-2019. The  
22 remaining three items are for billings after trial. If  
23 you go to the far right hand, there's a number 205 plus  
24 7,000 plus 1050. Those are the numbers I'm now asking  
25 for sanctions for.

1 THE COURT: I see. Okay. So there's a  
2 modification then from the 14,280, because those are not  
3 the preliminary objections or, if you will, prediscovery  
4 hours billed.

5 MR. OTTO: Yes. And that is -- while I don't  
6 agree with Mr. Roth's summary as to the effectiveness of  
7 his bankruptcy filing, those three numbers there are  
8 post his petition filing and are not discharged.  
9 Whatever his theory is.

10 THE COURT: I will -- and that will be from  
11 11-7 of '19 to the conclusion of that summation.

12 MR. OTTO: Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: With that modification and  
14 adjustment, Mr. Roth, it goes from the 14,280, then it  
15 appears to be between 8 or 9,000 dollars for the claim  
16 now.

17 Are you still saying there's something else  
18 that should be shaved off of it?

19 MR. ROTH: I would like to say this: For the  
20 amount of time he's claiming, he's claiming six or seven  
21 times the amount of time that I spent on the appeal and  
22 the post-trial motions. That just doesn't seem  
23 realistic.

24 Appeal and post-trial motions take time. But  
25 he's taking six or seven times what my time was, and I

1 don't think that's a fair analysis of the amount of time  
2 that he really would have spent on those things.

3 THE COURT: I think that goes to the weight  
4 that I would put into it by experience being on the  
5 bench, by being a practicing solo attorney being in  
6 private practice, as to whether that has reasonableness  
7 or not.

8 So whatever weight and consideration I would  
9 give it to a modification based upon your assertion that  
10 it's unreasonable as far as his statement. Different  
11 practices address different issues with different  
12 insight and time.

13 I don't know how many times he had to meet  
14 with his client to gain information. That would have  
15 added to his response time. There's a lot of factors  
16 that would have come into it. Is there a whole load of  
17 research that you had to look into issues?

18 MR. OTTO: I had to not only read the cases  
19 that he cited, I had to prepare my own brief.

20 Quite frankly, Your Honor, his brief was so  
21 disjointed, I had to reorder the whole thing in order to  
22 make sense of it for appellate purposes and for your  
23 purposes.

24 THE COURT: Okay. I'll give it the weight  
25 and credibility that I believe is reasonable and uses

1 common sense relative to that. Thank you very much.

2 Anything further from counsel?

3 MR. ROTH: Nothing, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: All right. We're concluded and  
5 adjourned. I'll be looking for legal memorandums by  
6 5 o'clock next Friday.

7 MR. OTTO: Thank you very much, Your Honor.

8

9 PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 10:25 A.M.

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Supreme Court of Pennsylvania



Allocatur Docket Sheet

Docket Number: 259 WAL 2021

Page 1 of 3

May 29, 2022

CAPTION

Christine Biros, an individual, Respondent

v.

U Lock Inc., a Pennsylvania Corporation, Petitioner

CASE INFORMATION

Initiating Document: Petition for Allowance of Appeal

Case Status: Active

Journal Number:

Case Category: Civil

Case Type(s):  
Declaratory Judgment  
Equity  
Quiet Title  
Real Property

CONSOLIDATED CASES

RELATED CASES

COUNSEL INFORMATION

Attorney: Roth, John Allen

Address: 805 S Alexandria  
Latrobe, PA 15650

Phone No: (724) 537-0939

Receive Mail: Yes

Receive EMail: Yes

Email:

Representing: U Lock Inc., Petitioner

Pro Se: No

IFP Status:

Attorney: Otto, William E.  
Law Firm of William E. Otto, Esq.

Address: Po Box 701  
Murrysville, PA 15668

Phone No: (724) 519-8778

Receive Mail: Yes

Receive EMail: Yes

Email:

Representing: Biros, Christine, Respondent

Pro Se: No

IFP Status:

11:43 P.M.

**Supreme Court of Pennsylvania**



**Allocatur Docket Sheet**

**Docket Number: 259 WAL 2021**

**Page 2 of 3**

**May 29, 2022**

**SUPREME COURT INFORMATION**

Appeal From:

Appeal Filed Below:

Probable Jurisdiction Noted:

Docketed Date:

August 27, 2021

Allocatur/Miscellaneous Granted:

Allocatur/Miscellaneous Docket No.:

Allocatur/Miscellaneous Grant Order:

**FEE INFORMATION**

Fee Dt	Fee Name	Fee Amt	Receipt Dt	Receipt No	Receipt Amt
08/27/2021	Petition for Allowance of Appeal Filed	90.25	08/27/2021	2021-SUP-W-002013	90.25

**INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT INFORMATION**

Court Name:	Superior	Docket Number:	1841 WDA 2019
Date of Order:	May 21, 2021	Rearg/Recon Disp Date:	July 28, 2021
		Rearg/Recon Disposition:	Denied.
Judge(s):	Shogan, Jacqueline O. Stabile, Victor P. King, Megan		
Intermediate Appellate Court Action:	Affirmed.		
Referring Court:			

**AGENCY/TRIAL COURT INFORMATION**

Court Below:	Westmoreland County Court of Common Pleas		
County:	Westmoreland	Division:	Westmoreland County Civil Division
Date of Agency/Trial Court Order:	January 6, 2020		
Docket Number:	17 CJ 04886		
Judge(s):	Smail, Harry F.	OTN:	
Order Type:	Judgment		

**ORIGINAL RECORD CONTENT**

Original Record Item	Filed Date	Content/Description
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**Record Remittal:**

**DISPOSITION INFORMATION**

Related Journal No:		Judgment Date:	
Category:	Decided	Disposition Author:	Per Curiam
Disposition:	Order Denying Petition for Allowance of Appeal	Disposition Date:	January 19, 2022
Dispositional Filing:		Author:	
Filed Date:			



Supreme Court of Pennsylvania



Allocatur Docket Sheet

Docket Number: 259 WAL 2021

Page 3 of 3

May 29, 2022

DISPOSITION INFORMATION

DOCKET ENTRY

Filed Date	Docket Entry / Representing	Participant Type	Filed By
August 27, 2021	Petition for Allowance of Appeal	Petitioner	U Lock Inc.
August 27, 2021	Reproduced Record	Petitioner	U Lock Inc.
September 8, 2021	Answer to Petition for Allowance of Appeal	Respondent	Biros, Christine
January 19, 2022	Order Denying Petition for Allowance of Appeal		Per Curiam
Comments: AND NOW, this 19th day of January, 2022, the Petition for Allowance of Appeal is DENIED.			
January 19, 2022	Order Exited		Office of the Prothonotary
February 2, 2022	Application Pursuant to Pa.R.A.P. 2572(c) to Stay Remand of Record Pending US Supreme Court Review	Petitioner	U Lock Inc.
February 15, 2022	Answer to Application to Stay Remand and Application for Appropriate Security	Respondent	Biros, Christine
March 16, 2022	Order Granting Stay of Remand of Record Pending US Supreme Court Review		Per Curiam
Comments: AND NOW, this 16th day of March, 2022, the Application to Stay Remand of Record Pending United States Supreme Court Review is GRANTED. Additionally, in accordance with Pa.R.A.P. 2572(d), Petitioner is hereby instructed to pay all accrued and unpaid real estate taxes and to keep such taxes current during the pendency of its occupancy of the Property.			
March 16, 2022	Order Exited		Office of the Prothonotary
May 11, 2022	Bankruptcy Notice - Action Stayed		Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

CROSS COURT ACTIONS

Docket Number: 1841 WDA 2019



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
WESTERN DISTRICT**

CHRISTINE BIROS, AN INDIVIDUAL,

: No. 259 WAL 2021

Respondent

**V.**

U LOCK INC., A PENNSYLVANIA  
CORPORATION,

## Petitioner

## ORDER

## PER CURIAM

**AND NOW**, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022, the Application to Stay Remand of Record Pending United States Supreme Court Review is **GRANTED**. Additionally, in accordance with Pa.R.A.P. 2572(d), Petitioner is hereby instructed to pay all accrued and unpaid real estate taxes and to keep such taxes current during the pendency of its occupancy of the Property.

## EXHIBIT E





THIS LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN VLOK INC. (BORROWER) A PENNSYLVANIA CORPORATION AND CHRISTOPH BROS (LENDER) AND/OR COVENANTOR COLLATERALIZED FROM S+T BANK FOR THE SUM OF \$ 325,316.00 THE TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE PAYMENT WILL BE AGREED UPON ON OR BEFORE 8/10/15 LENDER WILL SET TERMS IF AGREEMENT IS NOT SET THEN BY THAT DATE

/s/ K. B. ALPERT

VLOK INC.

7/10/15







Ms. Christine Biros  
P.O. Box 550  
1985 Lincoln Way  
White Oak, PA 15131

May 5, 2017

Mr. George Snyder  
U-Lock Inc.  
14140 State Route 30  
North Huntingdon, PA 15642

**RE: Loan from Christine Biros to U Lock Inc.**

Dear Mr. Snyder:

The purpose of this letter is to document a loan (the "Loan") to U-Lock Inc. (the "Borrower") from me (the "Lender") for the purchase of real estate located at 14140 State Route 30, North Huntingdon, PA 15642 (the "Property"). On July 16, 2015 (the "Loan Date"), the sum of Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$325,000.00) (the "Proceeds") was advanced to the Borrower to purchase the Property.

On the Loan Date, the Proceeds were paid to the sellers of the Property. At that time, the Borrower delivered a signed document to me committing to terms of payment to be agreed upon on or before August 16, 2015. The document also provided that in the event no agreement was reached, the Lender would set the terms of payment. That date has passed with no agreement having been reached.

In addition, despite the passage of almost two years, the deeds which were delivered to the Borrower (the "Deeds") evidencing the transfer of title to the Property to the Borrower have not been recorded and no repayments of the Proceeds have been made.

Since U-Lock has had access to the Property and the use of the Proceeds for almost two years, I have added the accrued interest to the Proceeds in order to establish the amount of the Loan. Based on the date on which the Proceeds were advanced, July 16, 2015, using an interest rate of nine percent (9.0 %) and assuming that this transaction closes on or before June 15, 2017, the amount of interest to be added to the Proceeds is Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Nine and 85/100 Dollars (\$60,939.85).

As a condition to proceeding with this Loan transaction, there will be guarantee agreements signed and delivered by you, Kash Snyder and Erik Martin. All three have been involved in this transaction in one manner or another and since no payments have been made since July 16, 2015, it is appropriate that all three execute guarantees assuring the Lender of repayment. You, Kash Snyder and Erik Martin are collectively referred to in this letter as the "Guarantors".

Accordingly, the Borrower and Guarantors agree as follows.

1. The following transaction will be closed on or prior to June 15, 2017 (the "Closing Date").
2. On the Closing Date, the Borrower and the Guarantors will execute and deliver appropriate loan documents to evidence and secure the Loan. The loan documents will



**EXHIBIT G**

Mr. George Snyder  
U Lock Inc.  
May 5, 2017  
Page 2

include, but not be limited to, the following: a Note, a Mortgage and an Assignment of Leases and Rents, all executed by the Borrower, and Guarantees executed by the Guarantors. In addition, the Borrower will provide appropriate corporate documents evidencing the Borrower's authorization of the Loan. All documents and documentation will be in form acceptable to Lender and Lender's counsel.

3. The Note will be in the face amount of the sum of Three Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty-Nine and 85/100 Dollars (\$385,939.85) plus the additional charges advanced by the Lender pursuant to Section 5 below. The Note will bear interest at an annual rate of nine percent (9.0 %) per annum, with monthly payments of principle and interest, based on an amortization of ten (10) years, with a balloon payment of the outstanding balance of the Loan due on or before June 1, 2022.
4. On the Closing Date, the Deeds will be delivered to Lender's counsel for recording.
5. The Lender will advance the following charges, all of which will be added to the principal balance of the Loan. These amounts will be finalized at the closing and will be evidenced on the face of the Note.
  - (a) recording fees and transfer taxes due and owing on the Deeds;
  - (b) the Lender's legal fees; and
  - (c) any other charges which Lender may incur for this transaction.

The undersigned represent that they are authorized to execute this letter agreement on behalf of the Borrower. The undersigned also acknowledges that this letter agreement is binding upon each of the Guarantors and the Borrower and is fully enforceable.

Very truly yours,

Christine Biros

**INTENDING TO BE LEGALLY BOUND, AGREED TO AND ACKNOWLEDGED THIS \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY OF MAY, 2017:**

**BORROWER:**  
**U LOCK INC.**

**GUARANTORS:**  
**GEORGE SNYDER**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: George Snyder  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
George Snyder  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kash Snyder  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Erik Martin



CLERK'S OFFICE  
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

5414 USX TOWER  
600 GRANT STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

FILED

MAY 21 A 10 10

CLERK  
BANKRUPTCY COURT  
PITTSBURGH

PGH00130